BOROUGH OF BOSTON.

Port Sanitary Authority.

ANNUAL REPORT

— OF —

THE PORT SANITARY MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR THE YEAR 1925.

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FOR THE YEAR 1925.

BOSTON PORT SANITARY AUTHORITY.

Offices :

MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS, BOSTON.

Members of the Authority :

THE MAYOR OF BOSTON (Ex-officio Chairman).

TOWN COUNCILLORS BAILEY, MAWER, PINCHES, WAIN.

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCILLORS WOODTHORPE AND GRANT.

Clerk :

EDMUND WAITE, ESQ.

Medical Officer of Health :

DAWSON C. ROBERTSON, M.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector :

J. H. EVANS.

BOSTON PORT SANITARY AUTHORITY
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

ANNUAL REPORT.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you the following Annual Report.

FORM A.

Amount of Shipping entering the Port Sanitary District during the year 1925 :—

		Number	Tonnage	Number Inspected: By the Medical Officer of Health	Number Inspected: By the Sanitary Inspector	Number reported to be Defective	Number of Order issued
Foreign	Steamers	376	152,546	25	50	8	Nil
	*Motor	7	1,946	—	—	—	—
	Sailing	3	336	—	—	—	—
	Fishing	5	412	—	—	—	—
	Total Foreign	391	155,240	25	50	8	Nil
Coastwise	Steamers	128	18,632	20	22	5	Nil
	*Motor	67	3,993	—	1	—	—
	Sailing	7	1,383	—	3	—	—
	Fishing	49	3,321	—	1	—	—
	Total Coastwise	251	27,329	20	27	5	Nil
	Total Foreign & Coastwise	642	182,569	45	77	13	Nil

FORM B.—Rats destroyed in 1925.

Number of	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	J'ne	July	Aug	Sep.	Oct.	Nov	Dec	Total in Year
Black Rats													5
Brown Rats	8	7	10	4	21	14	17	20	10	19	6		136
Rats examined													1
,, infected with plague													
,, not infected													1

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST PLAGUE.

FORM C.—Particulars relating to Vessels "infected" or "suspected," or from Infected Ports.

Name of Vessel. 1.	Date of Arrival. 2.	Whether infected, suspected or from an infected Port ? 3.	Methods of Rat Destruction employed.			Number of Rats killed. 7.	Whether a certificate of Deratisation was issued ? 8.	Remarks. 9.
			Fumigation by Sulphur Dioxide. 4.	Fumigation by Hydro-cyanic Acid. 5	Trapping, poisoning, etc. 6.			
NIL								

FORM D.—Vessels (other than those dealt with in Form C), subjected to Measures of Rat Destruction.

Number of Vessels fumigated by $S.O_2$. 1.	Number of Rats killed. 2.	Number of Vessels fumigated by HCN. 3.	Number of Rats killed. 4.	Number of Vessels on which trap-ping, poison-ing, etc., were employed. 5.	Number of Rats killed. 6.	Number of Fumigation Certificates issued on Form "Port 10."* 7.	Number of other certificates issued. 8.	Remarks. 9.
NIL.								

* Form " Port 10 " is issued only by the Port Medical Officers of Health of Bristol, Cardiff, Hull, Liverpool, London, Manchester, River Tyne, Southampton, Swansea and Weymouth for vessels proceeding to U.S.A ports.

Arrangements have now been made for the employment of a rat catcher. He will be under the supervision of the Medical Officer of Health and a proper table kept of rats destroyed. Any suspicious rat found dead will be sent for bacteriological examination.

I hope also that he will be able to do more destruction of rats actually on board ship. One hundred and forty-one rats have been destroyed during the year, almost wholly brown rats.

A peculiar specie of rat was caught during the year and I forwarded to the Ministry of Health for their expert's opinion as to what family this rat belonged, and the following is their reply :—

> " The specimen has been examined and the report is to the effect that it is a variety of Rattus rattus—one of the intermediate individuals between Rattus rattus rattus and rattus rattus alexandrinus, in other words, a variety of the ' Black ' rat."

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There has been no case of infectious disease during the year. All cases, including smallpox, can be adequately isolated if the occasion arises. The telephone to the Pilot Light Ship is now functioning satisfactorily and is available in any case of emergency.

Cleansing and disinfection of ships and persons can be satisfactorily carried out.

SHELL FISH.

The quantities landed at Boston Dock during the year were as follows :—

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.
Mussels	2,244	3	2
Cockles	800	14	2

The beds are in a satisfactory condition.

REPORT AS TO CHARACTER OF THE PRINCIPAL EXPORTS AND IMPORTS DURING THE YEAR.

The principal ports and character of the trade to and from are as follows. The actual quantities not available at time of going to press :—

FOREIGN TRADE.

IMPORTS.—TIMBER. is imported from Archangel and the ports in the Gulf of Finland.

GENERAL CARGO from Hamburg, Antwerp, Ghent, Bruges, and Rotterdam.

EXPORTS.—COAL to Denmark, Sweden, Hamburg and Ghent.

POTATOES to Spain and the Canary Islands.

COASTWISE TRADE.

IMPORTS.—Granite from Jersey and North Wales.

Grain from London, Ipswich and Hull.

Potatoes from Perth and Dundee.

TRAWLERS.

The number of trawlers discharging into the port during the year was 54, which is the lowest number for a great many years. The decline of the fishing industry is to be deplored, especially is this so when the facilities for such an industry are of such an admirable character.

(*Signed*) **D. C. ROBERTSON, D.P.H.,**

Medical Officer of Health.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you a report of my work of ship and port inspection during the year ended December 31st, 1925.

I have inspected 50 ships from foreign and 27 coastwise, and the nuisances abated have been—

Dirty Crews' Quarters	13
Dirty W.C.'s	14
Defective Ventilators	2
Defective Floors	2
Dirty Bedding	1

On one ship the crews' quarters were verminous and the master requested that the forecastles be fumigated and this was done under my supervision at the ship's expense.

I have also examined the cargoes of fish as they have been landed, but am pleased to be able to report that all were in good condition.

I have made examinations of the cargoes of shell and other fish landed at the wharfs at Skirbeck Quarter and found them all in good condition.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

J. H. EVANS,

Sanitary Inspector.